

BAXTER SPRINGS NEWS

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A parent at Una, Ark., is advertising for his lost son; the son's name is Columbus Beverage. Can it be possible this son left the country July first with J. Barleycorn?

THE WAGE AND PRICE RACE

With the many reports of strikes by workmen for higher wages and shorter hours and the ever increasing protests by consumers against the rapidly increasing cost of living one may well wonder where this race between prices and wages will end.

Thus today's papers announce the fact that 100,000 carpenters and other building employees in Chicago are demanding \$1.00 an hour and a forty-eight hour week, and that 10,000 employees of the International Harvester Company are also demanding \$1.00 an hour, a forty-four hour week, and a closed shop. Suppose these demands, the demands of the many thousands of striking ship-workers, and all other similar demands are granted, what will be the result? The added cost of production will, of course, be added to the selling price thus still further adding to the cost of living; and this increased cost of living will be used as the basis for demands for still higher wages; and so the wage-price race will continue in a perpetual circle. And the net result is that no one—except perhaps the middlemen who unduly boost their profits—is really benefited by the process, while millions of people of limited means or with meagre fixed salaries or other incomes, are compelled, through no fault of their own, to bear serious hardships.

At best this hap-hazard plan of wage and price boosting is a mere temporary make-shift and, if unrestrained, means eventual disaster to the nation as well as to the individual. This fact is amply illustrated by conditions in Italy, France, and other European countries. Already the situation in this country is extremely grave, and there is great need for the prompt ascertainment and application of some effective remedy. The problem is undoubtedly a very difficult one—much the most difficult that confronts the country today. One thing, however, is certain: Further increase in the cost of living must be checked. And, while the question is a very delicate one and must be handled with great care, a resort to Governmental price-fixing seems inevitable. This means that there must be an ascertainment, and fixing, by legal means, of reasonable profits for manufacturers and middlemen, as well as of wages and selling prices. The day of individual profiteering, regardless of the rights and privileges of the general public, must be speedily brought to a close if national disaster is to be averted.

Sol Pointer, right hand man for the local light plant, says he doesn't understand why the M. O. & G. exists. "They come into town and turn around and go right out again," Sol says.

THE EXPERIENCES OF THE TOURISTS

Many people take a summer vacation by going on a sight seeing tour to some interesting section of the country. Let no one think he is going to get any vacation rest out of it. He will probably return much more weary than he started.

Yet anyone who takes such a trip usually feels that his labor is well repaid. He is cheered for many days by the memories of beautiful country or fine cities he has seen. He has met interesting people, talked upon new subjects, and got different points of view.

He returns a broader American citizen. He begins to see that his own state and section does not contain all the wisdom and virtue, and that people with a somewhat different inheritance have their own points of view which have some degree of wisdom. Also he gets ideas of civic advantage. He learns how different towns have solved their community problems and have put through progressive measures. He begins to see how his home town might take some advance step, solve old problems, and build new institutions.

Most men get ideas helpful to their business by travelling. They are inspired by the swing of the giant stride that Twentieth Century America is taking. They have seen big things accomplished, they have more

faith in their own ability to do big things. They have a definite idea in many details as to how other people and other sections have achieved successes.

So the returned tourist may talk so fast about what he has seen that his neighbors weary of his conversation. He may have a flat pocket book, but his head is bulging with ideas. Anyway he is the possessor of an experience worth all it cost. But whatever the glories he has seen, he almost invariably comes back with the feeling that the good old home town of Baxter Springs is the best place yet.

A local citizen who runs a furnace at his home, called up the west side coal company and said he wanted to buy his winter stock of coal; the manager was out but the buyer told the clerk to tell him he wouldn't need near as much as last year. He was possibly looking at the thermometer which indicated about 90 at the time.

The people of this part of the country are perfectly willing and ready to overlook Mr. Ford's slight ignorance of Revolutionary history so long as he can keep a steady stream of runabouts coming this way.

If the wealthy summer hotel guests are not intelligent on any of the modern topics, they can always find out about them by asking the college students who wait on them.

Although everyone is suspicious of corporation men, the voters should not insist that all candidates for office must have failed in business.

Great numbers of city people are now roughing it in camps supplied with spring beds, high class cooks, and automobiles.

RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS

One of the most far-reaching of the problems of rural education relates to the matter of keeping the farm boys interested in the farm. So long as the farm boy must leave home and go to the city for his high school education he encounters the lying lure of the city. The rural high school permits him to pursue his education without going to the city.

But even in the rural high school there lurks another danger. It often happens that small town and rural high schools seek to be imitation city high schools. Their courses of study lead directly away from the farm. Here follows an editorial of Mr. McNeal in a recent issue of the Farmers Mail and Breeze:

I have visited two rural high schools within the last two weeks, one in Republic county at the little town of Agenda, the other in the Southern part of Stafford county out in the country several miles from town. In both cases, as I was informed, when the rural high school was proposed it met with determined opposition and was put through only by a vigorous campaign conducted by a few interested citizens. The opposition was based almost wholly on theory that the taxes in that district would be greatly increased. I was gratified to learn that since the high schools have been established the opposition has almost entirely ceased, and some of those who opposed the school have become enthusiastic supporters.

This is to be expected. The advantages and benefits of a well conducted rural high school will be so apparent that only those who are opposed to education and improved social conditions will continue their opposition. The next step should be a consolidation of the grade schools in connection with the high school. This could be accomplished with little or no additional expense.

Take the Agenda high school district for example. It includes, I was told, about 42 sections and in this area are, I think, five grade schools, all of them single-room schools except the one in Agenda in which two teachers are employed, and another teacher is needed. In the entire district, it was estimated, there are about 200 children attending these lower grade schools. It now requires the services of seven teachers, and five houses have to be heated and cared for constantly. By combining all in one consolidated school in connection with the rural high school, five teachers could take

care of the grades and the salaries paid the other two could be used to pay the expenses of transporting the children who lived too far away to walk to school and back to their homes.

The high school building could be enlarged to accommodate the grades, and the one building ought to be heated at less expense than the aggregate cost of heating the present high school building and the five separate buildings. All these children then would get the benefit of a well conducted, well graded school. In short the children of that district would enjoy educational advantages equal to the advantages enjoyed by the children in any of the cities or towns of the state.

Under the plan I have heretofore suggested the state would give substantial aid to each of these combined schools. In addition to this the government under the provisions of the Smith-Lever law would supply an instructor in agriculture. If the combined district added an experimental farm to its equipment as it should do, that would mean a first expense of several thousand dollars, but in the course of years if this experimental farm was conducted as it should be it would prove to be the best investment the district ever made in dollars and cents, to say nothing of the educational advantages.

I was very greatly interested in these two pioneer rural high schools. They are as I believe, the forerunners of a new educational system that will work wonders for rural education and economic progress.—The Kansas School Journal.

TOWN TOPICS

A prominent man of Hockerville, whose name we won't mention, up to a few weeks ago was strictly against Sunday base ball. He expressed his views forcibly and specially to his family. One particular Sunday he was made happy by the promise of his son that he would not go to the game; but was almost stunned a few hours later when he was summoned to give bail for that particular son who had been caught by officers while engaged with others in a crap game and arrested. Now he is convinced that while young men are engaged in playing and watching a base ball game, they surely are in better business than they might be if they were not at the ball game; hence he is a convert to Sunday ball. Base-ball is clean and wholesome. It strengthens the body and makes the mind alert. When people oppose Sunday playing they perhaps do not stop to consider that the young people might be doing something far worse.

C. W. Rogers is making a number of improvements to the grounds of his property at the corner of Tenth and Cleveland, the most noticeable of which is the construction of a concrete water duct in the natural channel and filling in of the depression so as to make the lots practically level. This will add immensely to the beauty of east Tenth street as well as the property itself. Mr. Rogers is also building concrete walks and retaining walls. Mr. Rogers is a valued citizen. He believes that Baxter Springs is destined soon to have a big growth and is in favor of getting ready for it by providing such modern improvements and will make the city an inviting place to the home seeker. He would like to see Tenth street paved the full length.

GIVE YOUR BOY A VACATION
By William A. McKeever, University of Kansas
The ordinary Kansas high school boy has perhaps never before this summer season done so much heavy common labor. He deserves a vacation and every reasonable parent will see that he gets it. In the wheat harvest, at the threshing machine, in drainage ditches, with the road builders and elsewhere I have seen this fine young fellow, hundreds of him, bending his back under a heavy load. He is a bit quicker than the older man, and prides himself on being able to "make a full hand" at the job.

Also you may find the big school boy at his place in town and city—in garages, grocery stores and bake shops; on ice wagons, with street repairers and as carpenter and plumbing apprentice. As a mere idler, or as a polite peddler of some kind of trinkets the able bodied youth is now everywhere to be seen.

There is such a thing as overworking a youth at normal labor. To keep him at it the year through means a premature stiffening of the joints and loss of plasticity. He may quickly be transformed into an old man both in mind and body by long continued periods of physical strain and labor. I recommend the week preceding the opening of school as the best time for your working boy's vacation. If he goes directly from work of school he will be able to study very little the first week, as has been shown. But a week of relaxation will restore mental attitudes properly for lesson participation.

The youth who has been working in town or city, especially the in-door friends in Pittsburg and Columbia,

worker, should have a week's camping or picnicing in the country. The young farm worker should do the city life a modest stint, for his period of refreshing, under careful safe guarding, of course.

But perhaps there is no more ideal week's rest and recuperation available for your tired boy than for him to attend a chautauque course somewhere. See if there is not one in session at about the right time, and a few hours' journey from home. Send your boy there with a full admission ticket and enough to cover the expense of living at the place in a tent.

The variety of the chautauque program, the typical country affair, is just about ideal for relaxing the muscles, stimulating the mind and tuning up the morals of your boy.

Near Dayton, O., July 18, 1919.
Dear Father and Mother:—Supper is over and the dishes are washed.

We have had a very pleasant trip through Illinois and Indiana and like Ohio so far. We do not think of shedding our coats until dinner time. The youngster and I cover up pretty well with a heavy quilt and ride that way for about three hours each morning. I have only done the driving 1 1/2 days. Stanton does the rest of it.

We spent last night in a hotel in Marshall, Ill. Drove in too late to hunt a camping place.

The roads here are great. Never saw so much fast driving in all my life. The trolley from Dayton, O., and Richmond, Ind., the railroad and the main driveway run along together and there is something doing all the time.

The youngster nearly torments the life out of me.

Tell Mrs. Gooden that we sure haven't time to write, and that this letter will have to do for all.

Write us a few lines right away and send them to Carry, Pa., so we will know how you are.

Myrtle Skinner.

MELROSE

Dr. Walker was called to Stebbins last Thursday to set the broken arm of the little eight year old son of James Pierson.

Farmers are busy with threshing in this vicinity. John Cool, Al Lovejoy, Charles Wall and A. G. Griffin and sons have been threshing.

Miss Anna Bulger, in company with a lady friend, visited the former's brother, Phillip Bulger at Joplin, a few days last week.

Ernest Thornburg and wife of Picher went out to the vicinity of Melrose last Sunday to camp while he is helping his father and brothers baling hay this summer.

D. S. Stebbins went to his son, Lester's, Saturday to spend a few days looking after the threshing of their wheat.

S. Sartin and Mr. Hampton each took a load of baled timothy hay for Mr. Stebbins to Columbus for parties who engaged the hay, first of the week.

Mrs. James Filby has been caring for her sick mother, Mrs. J. W. Davis, the past week, who has worried over her son, Joe, who is in Columbus jail awaiting trial for taking the horse and buggy of Miss Myrtle Naylor.

Mrs. Young and granddaughter, Hazel, were selling produce at the mines last Friday.

Mrs. Bulger and son, Robert, motored to Baxter to attend church last Sunday.

Mrs. Floyd Elliott was visiting Mrs. Geo. Pierson last Friday assisting Mrs. Pierson in caring for Raymond and Miss Ruth, who have been quite sick with fever, but are improving now.

Miss Anna Bulger has a lady friend and two children visiting with her and mother from Colorado, who will spend a few days visiting at Melrose and then visit Miss Myrtle Naylor before she returns to Colorado.

NEARING END OF CROSS CONTINENT RUN

Park Rapids, Minn., July 18.—The Jefferson Highway sociability run was forced to remain here tonight, because of lack of accommodations at Itasca State Park, and as a result, the headwaters of the Mississippi river will not be visited until tomorrow.

Good progress was maintained all day and increasing interest is being manifested in the run as the party gets nearer to the end of the tour at Winnipeg.

Numerous stops were made during the day, the members of the party being delightfully entertained at Verdale, Sebeka and Menasha. Butter-milk, lemonade and blueberries with real cream featured the stop at Menasha. Lunch was served at Wadena where the party spent two hours at noon.

St. Joseph, Mason City and St. Paul parties who joined the run at the Twin Cities are still with the trippers and now say that they expect to go clear through to the last day.

Mrs. J. L. Sullivan is spending the day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Valliere in Oklahoma.

Miss Thelma Rippling returned last night after a few days visit with friends in Pittsburg and Columbia.

PACKERS USING POWER TO DEFEAT GOV'T REGULATION

Claimed Bankers and Merchants Are Coerced into Sending Telegrams to Senators and Congressmen

URGE DEFEAT OF BILL IN CONGRESS

Reported That Armour's Agents Are Enlisting Support of Small Town Dealers Through Misrepresentation

Washington, July 21.—The "Big Five" packers have started a nationwide propaganda to defeat the Kenyon-Anderson bill which provides for strict government regulation of the packing business, making radical restrictions on packer-owned stock yards and opening up the packer refrigerator cars to general use as common carriers. This was charged in the senate today by Senator Kenyon of Iowa, who had his desk heaped with telegrams urging defeat of the bill. Nearly all the messages were in the same language and Senator Kenyon stated that the bulk of them had been paid for by the packers themselves. They have been coming from small town grocers and meat dealers and bankers. Senator Kenyon said he had nearly a dray load of similar "propaganda" instituted by the packers to defeat the legislation.

Many Protests from Kansas
During the day, Kansas members of Congress said that they had been receiving many letters from Kansas urging defeat of the bill and stated that evidently it was a part of the same propaganda. Senator Capper, for example, received in one mail five letters from small town bankers urging the defeat of the bill as inimical to business and the general good of the cattle interests, notwithstanding the fact that it has been the cattle raisers largely who have been insisting on passage of the bill.

Some of the letters showed very plainly that the character of the legislation was being grossly misrepresented to the people out in Kansas by somebody. One letter protested, for example, against the government taking over and operating the packing houses. If the legislation proposed such a course, the people would justly have a kick coming. But it provides not for the government taking over and operating the packing houses—merely for regulation of the business from stem to stern like the Interstate Commerce Commission handles the railroads.

Packers Paying for It
That the packers are paying for the propaganda from other states was disclosed by copies of telegrams received by Representative Anderson—who, with Senator Kenyon, is sponsor for the bill—from the secretary of the Southern Wholesale Grocers' Association. The wholesale grocers are fighting the packers bitterly because they have invaded the grocery field. This telegram said:

"Armour's agents having retailers telegraph congressmen for endorsement of their business methods. Armour paying for telegrams."

Copies of several form telegrams, which it is charged Armour & Company are having distributed to be sent to members of Congress, Armour paying the telegraph bill, also have been received by senators from dealers who took them from the packers' representatives but instead of filing the message of protest sent the form to their member. In Alabama this form telegram is being used: "Would appreciate your support to defeat the Anderson-Kenyon Bill when same comes before you as I am a retail grocer and need the efficiency of the meat packing industry."

Mislead the Dealers

A letter from Kentucky said: "One of the packers' men approached the writer yesterday and tried to tell him that if Congress passed the law now pending that every handler of food products in the United States would be placed under license and that some one man would be appointed at the head of this division and that if a retailer or jobber should in any way make a mistake and do something that was contrary to the rules governing the licenses that their license would be revoked, and that they would be no longer permitted to handle food products."

"These agencies of theirs are going to the retail merchants who know nothing about the measure which is now pending before Congress and getting their signatures to petitions requesting the defeat of this measure."

From North Carolina comes this report: "Armour & Company are circulating a petition in this territory for the

signature of all retail merchants. We have made diligent inquiry and from what information we are able to get it would seem that this petition is misleading in that they say nothing about the special privileges but simply ask the retail merchant if he is willing for them to continue in the grocery business."

That they are alleged to have misrepresented the whole purpose of the pending legislation.—K. C. Star.

Sponsors of the "packers regulation" bill recognize that the packers have a legitimate right to attempt to defeat the bill. The chief fault found with the activities of the packers is—

BAXTER MINING MEN GOING TO CHINA

From the American Zinc and Lead Journal:
Marshall D. Draper, former manager of the Anna Beaver mines at Cardin, has been selected by his company to go to China and promote a big mining proposition there. It was announced that Mr. Draper was to go to Nicaragua on a similar mission but the plan has been changed. Draper has been authorized to take an assistant with him and has requested K. L. Koelker, formerly of Cardin, but now of Joplin, to accompany him. Koelker is engaged in making ore estimates and calculations in the Oklahoma-Kansas district, on which government taxes are based.

SAYS NO FALLING OFF SINCE JULY 1

Baxter Springs, Kan., July 22, 1919.
Editor Baxter Daily Citizen:

Dear Sir:—I notice your paper says on page two in column three travel on interurban street cars is much lighter, referring to the death of J. B. I find this to be a mistake, as I am power house operator for the interurban street and register the meter readings. I see travel is just as heavy now as it was before the death of J. B. The people were not going to Joplin for whiskey only. I can tell the good people of Baxter why I have such heavy loads to pull to Joplin and it was not all whiskey either, and our heavy loads will continue. My meter readings show just as much watt hour meter readings. Respy, yours,

W. W. LEE,
Substation operator for the S. W. Mo. R. R. Co.

WOULD FREE ARMY PRISONERS Amnesty for Every Military Offender Proposed in Congress

Washington, July 21.—Complete amnesty for all soldiers, sailors and marines convicted by court-martial, except those whose offenses would be a felony under federal statutes, was proposed in a bill introduced today by Senator Chamberlain, Democrat, of Oregon, and referred to the military committee.

"The stories coming to me," said Senator Chamberlain in a statement to the Senate, "many of them being verified, of outrages being committed against young men through the instrumentality of court-martial, are so horrible that some legislation ought to be enacted promptly to obtain relief. The fact that already the clemency board has reduced the sentences in the aggregate from twenty-eight thousand years to 6,700 years is proof positive that the sentences were out of all proportion to the crimes committed. These six thousand years ought to be wiped out or placed at an irreducible minimum."

"The Spanish Inquisition was not a mark to some of the cruelties practiced against these soldiers in France."

GALENA IS AFTER ROAD

A delegation from Galena, Kan., will be in Topeka to appear before the highway commission, asking government aid for a proposed route of eleven miles of concrete road in Cherokee county, connecting the Missouri concrete road running west thru Jasper county with the Hoover road running south from Columbus to the Oklahoma line. If this road is approved by the highway commission it will connect the present concrete road running west thru Jasper county, Missouri, with the already approved concrete roads running thru Cherokee, Labette and Montgomery counties. At a recent meeting of the county commissioners of Cherokee county the proposed road was declared a public utility.

Cherokee county has thirty-one miles of concrete roads approved and the Galena delegation is asking for this additional eleven miles, which the members say is the connecting link.

The following compose the party: Dr. H. A. Browne, mayor of Galena; Calvin Cooper, Cherokee county engineer; J. F. Lanier, cashier, Galena National bank; John McCullough, cashier Citizens bank; J. I. McClaren, manager Galena Smelter; Judge A. S. Wilson, attorney at law; A. Schmidt, vice president, Galena National bank; George Long, postmaster; William Ricksecker, city engineer; J. E. Boice, undertaker; C. H. McNay, Galena Republican Daily Times.—Topeka Capital.